



FLAG PRESENTATION . . . John F. Melanic, chairman of the Americanization committee of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, No. 3251, proudly presents "Old Glory" to Juan C. Lopez, member and representative of the Pueblo Citizenship Class, which Mrs. Lopez, also a member of the class which is conducted each Thursday evening at the Pueblo Center Hall on 203rd st., views the scene with a marked reverence. Tony Rios, chairman of the citizenship class, was unable to attend the ceremonies due to illness. (Torrance Herald photo.)

SHERFEY, CONNER NAMED ON TORRANCE AREA PROJECTS BOARD; 32 CLUBS ENTERED

Mayor J. Hugh Sherfey Jr. and Postmaster C. Earl Conner have been named to the executive committee of Torrance Area Projects, Inc., which is planning the big five-day Fourth of July celebration in Torrance to "Welcome Home" men and women who served in World War II. Their appointment was announced by General Chairman William H. Tolson, following a meeting Thursday. Other members of the committee are Councilman C. Merton Gilbert, James W. Barber and Harry E. Lewis, vice chairman and Frank S. Selover, secretary and treasurer.

Improvement Of Western Avenue Due

Improvement widening of Western Avenue in Torrance near Gardena was provided for Tuesday night as the City Council adopted a resolution of consent to the County of Los Angeles to do necessary repair work on the street. A new flood control channel, recently constructed by the county, resulted in tearing up of old pavement, and the new work will result in a better highway in that area.

In relation to the opening of Western through Torrance, the City of Los Angeles told the council that the cost to Torrance for securing necessary rights-of-way data will be \$2600.

The council also renewed its contract with the County Regional Planning Commission for necessary services to the city.

L.A. May Build New School In Shoestring Area

Land agents for Los Angeles Board of Education were in Torrance area this week making preliminary surveys which it is reported will result in the construction of an elementary school in the shoestring strip just east of Torrance.

The school, it is said, probably will be built on Carson st. west of Normandie ave. and it is proposed that it will be completed in time for occupancy at the opening of the school next fall.

The construction of the new building will materially relieve conditions at Torrance elementary school, which is overcrowded, and may make it possible to children residing in South-west Homes and other sections of Torrance to attend school in this area rather than in Gardena.

At such a time as the people of Torrance take over the operation of their own schools, as proposed by the Torrance Parents Association, the new school would provide a means of dividing the students residing in the shoestring strip from those residing within the limits of Torrance, it was said.

Dymond Gets His Job Back With Street Dept.

William Dymond, three-year veteran of World War II, has been restored to a job in the street department of the City of Torrance as a laborer at a salary of \$205 a month.

Dymond was employed by the city after his discharge from the service and was doing good work when required to take what J. G. Caldwell, director of Torrance Area Veterans Service Center, declared was "an engineer's examination" for street sweeper. Failing to pass the difficult test, he was removed from his job.

Councilman A. L. Jackson requested Tuesday night that he be restored to his position.

CITY CONSIDERS LOT CLEANING FEE

The suggestion of City Engineer G. M. Jain that the city contract with P. I. Hadden for lot cleaning in Torrance was referred by the City Council Tuesday night back to Jain and City Attorney J. E. McCall.

Hadden proposes to post the lots with notices to destroy weeds; clean them and bill the owners at a rate of \$5.00 for a 50 by 120 foot lot, or at a rate of \$11.25 an acre for large areas. They would be cleaned by disc and narrow method.

Assurance That Torrance Soon Will Get Permit to Use Flight Strip Received

Council Jumps Gun On Airport Zone Ruling

The City Council Tuesday night jumped the gun on the City Planning Commission and concurred in the action of the planning body in denying a variance to Community Airports, Inc., to allow the company to construct certain buildings on the new airport at Prairie ave. and Redondo Beach Blvd. before the planning commission wanted concurrence.

The planning body, after hearing protests from residents of the area surrounding the new airport, denied the zoning variance which would have permitted construction of an aviation supply building, aircraft agency with office and display room, restaurant and lunch room, gasoline service station and auto repair shop.

However, the planners wanted an opinion from City Attorney J. E. McCall as to what constitutes an airport, under the law, such opinion being desired for the influence it might have on the entire matter.

The City Council, however, stepped right in and agreed to concur in the zoning variance denial without waiting for the opinion of the city attorney, requested by May 7.

Definite assurance that the City of Torrance is, soon to be given permission to use the Lomita Flight Strip as a municipal airport has just been received from Washington, D.C.

In a letter dated April 16 addressed to former Mayor William H. Tolson from the Public Roads Administration, C. D. Curtis, Acting Commissioner of Public Roads, states, "your request for the use of this flight strip on the basis of a revocable permit will be granted, subject to the execution of a satisfactory form of a revocable permit. A draft of such permit has been prepared and upon approval will be forwarded to you for your consideration."

Briefly reviewing the history of this decision, Commissioner Curtis wrote Tolson as follows: "Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of March 20, requesting a revocable permit for the use of the Lomita Flight Strip by the City of Torrance."

"After the War Department declared this Flight Strip surplus to its needs, in accordance with our usual practice, the use of this facility was offered to the Navy. The Navy advised us that it would be glad to use the Flight Strip and permission was then granted to the Navy by the Public Roads Administration."

"Subsequently, we received a letter from the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Air in which he stated that he had discussed the Flight Strip with Congressman King, who was interested in behalf of the City of Torrance, which wished to use the Flight Strip for municipal purposes. The Assistant Secretary stated that he felt that the Navy will be able to cooperate fully with any arrangements which we might make with the municipality for its use."

"In view of these circumstances, your request for the use of this Flight Strip on the basis of a revocable permit will be granted, subject to the execution of a satisfactory form of a revocable permit. A draft of such permit has been prepared and upon approval will be forwarded to you for your consideration."

"Praises Congressman King. Commenting upon the word from Washington, Reed J. Parkin, chairman of the Torrance Aviation Commission, said today, "Naturally, we are all delighted to receive this good news, because we believe it is the first step in our program to eventually acquire a permanent lease of this valuable property, which we plan to have fully developed as a Torrance Municipal Airport to serve the entire harbor area."

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CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEES ANNOUNCED

Standing committees of the City Council were appointed by Mayor J. Hugh Sherfey Jr. Tuesday night, as follows:

FINANCE: Mayor J. Sherfey, chairman; Councilmen G. V. Powell and A. L. Jackson, and Councilmen W. H. Tolson, and C. M. Gilbert as alternates.

Has jurisdiction over matters pertaining to accounting, auditing, disbursing city funds, city records, water department, ordinances, franchises and legal procedure.

Under this committee are the city clerk, treasurer, water and legal department.

PARKS AND RECREATION: Councilman Gilbert, chairman; Councilmen Jackson and Tolson.

Has jurisdiction over all matters pertaining to public parks and recreation.

Under this committee are the park and recreation department; INSPECTION, AUDITORIUM, TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC LIBRARY; Councilman Tolson, chairman; Councilmen Gilbert and Powell.

Has jurisdiction over permits for gas and electricity, building regulations, transportation, public library and civic auditorium. Under this committee are the building, plumbing, electrical, custodial departments, public library and municipal bus lines.

POLICE AND FIRE: Councilman Powell, chairman; Councilmen Tolson and Mayor Sherfey. Has jurisdiction over all matters pertaining to Police and Fire departments, court trials, street lights, stray animals and public health.

Under this committee are chief of police, fire chief, deputies and city judge and health officer.

STREET, SEWER and GARBAGE: Councilman Jackson, chairman; Councilmen Tolson and Gilbert.

Has jurisdiction over matters pertaining to streets, sewers, repair construction, tools, machinery and city lands.

Under this committee are engineering and street departments.

Torrance Youths Hospitalized In Knife Attack

Torrance police arrested Salvador M. Torres, 17, 427 N. Gayfe st., San Pedro, late yesterday afternoon following a fight which was said to have involved several persons on Arlington avenue near 203rd st. Two youths were stabbed, one seriously.

In the Torrance Memorial hospital is Lawrence Chavez, it was reported, suffering from multiple knife wounds about the chest and side one of which had penetrated his lung.

The other victim of knife wounds about the face and side of the body was said by police to be Egidio Hermenegildo, 20, also living in the Pueblo. He was treated at the hospital and later released.

Schools Demand Action To Remedy Flood Water And Silt Condition

City Engineer Glen Jain referred to the City Council a complaint of the Los Angeles School District regarding flood water conditions which seriously hamper operations at Torrance elementary school, and the council referred it right back to Jain for study of the needs.

The letter to Jain asked that the matter of flood waters from the area east of the new Navy Material Redistribution Center be presented to the responsible agency, as serious damage to school property is being done and great inconvenience to children and teachers is being experienced.

It was pointed out that the water draining beneath the Santa Fe tracks flows over Plaza del Amo, under bungalows at the school across the school ground over the sidewalk and creates curb high flood water along Martina ave. and 22nd st. The silt and water renders the school playground useless for several days after storms, the letter stated.

Jain was asked to report back on the matter, that action might be taken to remedy the situation.

The Santa Fe Railroad, the Navy department and the city may jointly be required to work out the problem, it was said following the meeting.

Torrance Weather Record

Official U. S. Weather Bureau

TEMPERATURE		
1946	Maxi-	Mini-
April	mum	mum
17	64	52
18	64	52
19	68	49
20	68	51
21	70	47
22	72	41
23	71	52

PLAN TO ESTABLISH NEW COUNTY BEACH PARK AT TORRANCE IS ABANDONED

Promises that the County of Los Angeles would locate one of its multi-million dollar model beach parks and recreation areas, complete with swimming pool, along Torrance beach or at an adjacent area in Redondo Beach were slipping this week as pressure groups from the congested areas apparently had stalked the county into providing the park for the Santa Monica area.

Torrance Man Escapes Death In Train Mishap

Denver H. Mansker, 28-year old cook of Daniels Cafe, who is a recently discharged veteran living at the Gaylord Apartments, barely escaped death early Friday morning when the automobile which he was driving, crashed into a Santa Fe engine at Madrid ave. and Torrance boulevard, police reported.

Mansker received severe lacerations and possible fractures in the mishap and was taken to the Torrance Memorial hospital. He was later transferred to the Long Beach Seaside hospital.

Mansker said that with his own car he had been pushing his brother-in-law's car along Torrance boulevard in an attempt to get it started. After starting the brother-in-law's car, Mansker said he continued to follow the car across the track when the accident occurred.

The locomotive engineer, John Trieweller, Los Angeles, remarked to witnesses: "I don't know how the car being pushed got across without being hit. It was surely close."

Mansker's car was completely demolished in the accident, a Torrance police officer said.

Helicopter Mail Service Will Become Reality Within Two Months, Report

Helicopter mail service for Torrance will become a reality in the very near future, it was indicated by the statements of Gale Sullivan, assistant postmaster general, who visited Los Angeles last week. Such a service was proposed by James Ray, president of Southwest Airways, to serve some 100 cities from a central distribution point at the Los Angeles municipal airport at Inglewood. Torrance airport would be the terminal for one of five routes.

Chamber of Commerce officials from many of the 100 cities involved thronged Sullivan while he was in Los Angeles on the helicopter mail pickup and delivery survey, and many of them got the promises they wanted.

Los Angeles has assured Sullivan that all necessary airport space for operation of the proposed helicopter mail service here will be provided. Sullivan addressed rail and air transport officials at a luncheon in the Chamber of Commerce Building, Los Angeles, explaining that the air service is but a new step in the Postoffice Department's role of pioneering transportation for "faster, better and cheaper" mail delivery.

Sullivan has returned to Washington, D. C., to let the contract for the helicopter service as soon as the civil aeronautics board approves technical arrangements. This probably will be within two months, Sullivan said.

Los Angeles County cities have been chosen as a test laboratory for the helicopter mail delivery service, which if successful here will be adopted in similar areas where large clusters of cities need the delivery, the announcement said.

To be eligible for participation in the experiments, the cities with first-class post offices within a radius of 35 miles of Los Angeles must provide their own helicopter landing fields. Where existing air fields are only five or 10 minutes' drive from the post office, as at Torrance, such airports can be utilized.